

RECESSED MEETING OF NOVEMBER 21, 2023 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Recess Meeting at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on November 21, 2023. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Also present were City Attorney Robert Wilkinson, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Payroll Administrator Jennifer Ferrell, Interim Police Chief Ryan Lemaire, Fire Chief Derek McCoy, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, City Planner Wade Morgan, and Admin & Community Relations Coordinator Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderman Papania gave the invocation and Alderman Burgess led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the agenda.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

David Allen and Ester Payton, item 4-a, spoke in opposition to the Urban Renewal Plan.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Adopt Resolution rescinding the April 4, 2023 Resolution Designating Slum and Blighted Areas and Rescinding the City's proposed Urban Renewal Plan

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman and seconded by Alderman Authement to adopt a Resolution rescinding the April 4, 2023, Resolution Designating Slum and Blighted Areas and Rescinding the City's proposed Urban Renewal Plan. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Papania, Alderman Blackman, Alderman Impey, Alderman Cox

Nay: None

b. Discussion of the new proposed Urban Renewal Map Area and timeline

The City Clerk explained the proposed Urban Renewal timeline. She said that at the December regular board meeting, that the amended Urban Renewal map will be up for adoption and the public hearing will be set for January 2, 2024. She said December 5th is the beginning of the ten-day notice for property owners to appeal their property in the Urban Renewal area. She said the Planning Commission will meet on December 12th to discuss their recommendation. If the Planning Commission gives its recommendation, the board will accept it at the December 19th meeting and the Public Hearing will take place as advertised on January 2nd.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. APPEAL ZAB recommendation - request for a variance to the minimum front yard setback requirement to allow a porch to encroach 1 foot, 8 inches into the required front yard at 503 Porter Ave. – PID# 60225050.050 – Applicant: Marques Thomas/Hank Zuber – Zoning Adjustment Board Recommends Approval for reduced variance of 25% (15 inches)

The City Planner said the Lazy Oak restaurant would like to build a covered porch and is requesting a variance to the minimum front yard setback requirement to allow the columns to encroach 1 foot, 8 inches into the required front yard. He said the Zoning & Adjustment Board recommended approval of the maximum allowed variance they can grant at 25%. A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to deny the appeal and to uphold the ZAB recommendation to approve the 25% front yard setback variance at 503 Porter Avenue PID# 60225050.050.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda.

Mayor:

- a. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for The Drop on Government on December 31, 2023, from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on January 1, 2024, Government Street closed from Washington Avenue to Kotzum Avenue beginning at 2:00 p.m.; there will be overtime costs to the City
- b. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for Mosaic Church Family Fun Night on June 13, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Fort Maurepas Park; no costs to the City, and the applicant pays associated event cost

City Clerk:

- c. Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting November 7, 2023

Police Department:

- d. Accept OSPD Monthly Report for October 2023
- e. Authorize Items to Be Declared Surplus, Removed from Inventory, and Disposed or Auctioned - Assets 7250 and 7262 will be disposed and Asset 7419 will be auctioned

Fire Department:

- f. Accept OSFD Monthly Report for October 2023

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- g. Accept the resignation of Police Officer David Wilder, effective November 10, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- h. Accept the resignation of Police Officer Paul Moshenrose, effective November 27, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- i. Authorize removal of Records Clerk Jennifer Perronne from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- j. Authorize removal of Dispatcher Aaron Bernard from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- k. Authorize removal of Dispatcher David Havard from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately

Zoning Adjustment Board:

- l. Approve exceptions to the historic district sign requirements for First Presbyterian Church of Ocean Springs, 921 Ocean Avenue; Parcel ID # 60137410.000, 60137400.100, 60137394.000. Applicant: First Presbyterian Church of Ocean Springs – Zoning Adjustment Board recommends Approval
- m. Approve request for a variance to the minimum setback requirement to allow an accessory building to encroach 2.5 feet into the required setback area on the rear (south) side of the property – 1108 Magnolia Bayou Blvd., PID# 61242107.000, Applicant: Byron S. Hudgins – Zoning Adjustment Board Recommends Approval

Historic Preservation Commission:

- n. Approve Identification and Wayfinding Signs at First Presbyterian Church of Ocean Springs, 921 Ocean Avenue, in the Old Ocean Springs Historic District; Parcel ID # 60137410.000, 60137400.100, 60137394.000, Applicant: First Presbyterian Church – Historic Preservation Commission Recommends Approval
- o. Approve a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for miscellaneous exterior repairs, installation of fencing, installation of new windows and exterior painting

at 1208 Bowen Ave. – PID# 61190012.000 – Applicant: William G. and Anna K. Curtis – Historic Preservation Commission Recommends Approval

Grants Administration:

- p. Authorize Submission for the MS Office of Homeland Security State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program Interest Survey and Memorandum of Understanding for City Hall, Police Department and Overall City Activity

Building Department:

- q. Approve the Building Department Permit Report for October 2023
- r. Approve the Building Official's recommendations for the tree applications received through November 13, 2023
- s. Accept Code Enforcement Report through November 15, 2023

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. City Clerk: Approve payment: Docket of Claims, all expenditures are appropriate and authorized by law, and spread summary on the Minutes

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to approve the Docket of Claims finding that all expenditures are appropriate and authorized by law, and spread the summary on the minutes.

- b. City Clerk: Authorize the adjustment of water/sewer accounts due to a finding that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility and the excess usage was due to unforeseen circumstances

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to adjust the water/sewer accounts listed, with the finding that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility and excess usage was due to unforeseen circumstances.

- c. City Clerk: Approve Budget Amendment to purchase Public Works Shop Welding Machine and Air Compressor

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to authorize the budget amendment of \$7,500 split from the cash ending balance of the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund for the purchase of a welding machine and air compressor for the Public Works Shop Department.

- d. City Clerk: Infrastructure Modernization of 2018 update

The City Clerk gave the board an update regarding the Infrastructure Modernization of 2018. She said the Fiscal Year 22/23 required base expenditure total is \$6,160,740.41,

we bypassed our new required minimum by \$154,832.48, which means we are eligible to receive the full amount of funds allocated for Ocean Springs.

e. Building: Tree Appeal for 2824 Lawnwood Drive

The Building Official said the homeowner at 2824 Lawnwood Drive is appealing his recommendation approving no more than 20% trim and removal of all limbs within 8ft of the roof of structures to prevent loss of insurance. He said the homeowner is requesting the removal of one Live Oak tree by the shed in the backyard stating Nationwide Insurance has denied wind/hail coverage due to the tree. The property owner, Bob Aucoin, requested approval of his appeal to remove the Live Oak for insurance coverage purposes. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to table item to get more information from the insurance company.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

James Lewis requested the Public Hearing on January 2, 2024, be moved to the Civic Center.

Noelle Nolan Rider, Stacy Elley, and Renee Oliver addressed the board regarding urban renewal.

Katie Yow spoke about the flooding in the Parktown Subdivision.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to waive the Civic Center rental fee to provide Thanksgiving dinner to First Responders.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to accept the retirement of Sergeant Chris Meadows, effective November 30, 2023, authorize to start the process to fill this position, and authorize Sergeant Meadows to purchase his duty weapon [GLOCK 19, Serial BNKB196] from the City of Ocean Springs for \$1.00 as authorized by Mississippi State Statute 45-9-131.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize the employment of Brandon Walley, Patrolman, Step 2, on or about December 13, 2023, contingent upon the successful completion of all pre-employment requirements.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize the employment of Daniel Osburn, Patrolman, Step 1, on or about November 27, 2023, contingent upon the successful completion of all pre-

employment requirements.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize the employment of Kaitlyn Mammoser, Dispatcher, Step 1, on or about November 27, 2023, contingent upon the successful completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Alderman Impey wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Alderman Cox requested the January 2nd meeting be moved to the Civic Center. The Mayor said it would be considered.

The Mayor said there would be a comprehensive plan public meeting at the Civic Center on November 28th at 6:00 p.m. for community input. He announced that Christmas lights on Washington Avenue will be lit on November 24th.

The City Attorney gave a letter to the City Clerk to distribute to the board after the meeting from Elizabeth Feder Hosey regarding urban renewal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN UNTIL 6: 00 P.M. on December 5, 2023

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to recess/adjourn the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on December 5, 2023.

The meeting ended at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor  12/5/23
Date

Clerk  12-05-2023
Date

